



# THE GARZETTE

## W4GR

Volume 17, Issue 03

147.075+

444.525+5mhz

53.110 -1mhz

### From the Presidents Mic!



**QST! QST! de WA4ZXV, Norm Schklar**

#### Inside this issue:

From the President's Mic	1	We have a new slate of officers, well maybe the old slate with some modifications. We're off to a great start; we've had our first Executive Committee meeting. We're talking about a few different items, and maybe an additional operating event the year. The program ideas are very interesting, and I hope that you'll be able to attend most of them. You are also likely to be called to participate or present a program. Don't be bashful, step up and cause a great program to happen.
Calendar	2	I worked some of the 2008 ARRL International DX Contest this past weekend. First time I've worked a contest in years. I was spurred to the event knowing that one of our members, Mike (ND4V), was working the event from Costa Rica. I worked them on three bands, but missed them on 160 and 10 meters. I didn't make a lot of contacts, but enjoyed making the ones I did make. If you haven't tried working a contest, you might try it. Who knows, the bug could set in and the local radio store will be glad to help you enhance your station. Actually, many of the stations I worked were operating with 100 watts or less. If you would like to know more about contesting, just contact Kyle, W4KDA and let him know. I'm sure he'll be glad to find someone to put on a program.
VE Sessions and Club Meetings	3	
KB6NU	4	
Word Search	5	
Lemons / Bylaws	6	
More INFO	7	I've had occasion recently to talk about Amateur Radio in my community. One of the items that seems to catch the listeners attention is that Amateur Radio stations are independent and don't really require any infrastructure other than electricity, and many of us have standby power equipment. We can generally set up
Crew 73	8	communications with stations several hundred miles away. While we can't take care of everyone's communications needs, we get priority messages to the hands of the proper authorities. The ugly giant erector set structures in our back yards are one of the tools that make these communications possible. We should all be preparing and practicing for the community talk.
Apparel Form	9	
Membership Form	10	Speaking of the nasty tall metal structure in the back yard, this month's meeting is the "Strange Antenna Challenge" presented by Arnold Solomon, KC4ZUA and Bill
Sponsors	11	Perkins, KB4KFT. Hope to see you there!

# March 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 <b>2 m Club net @ 2000</b>	4	5 <b>6m Club net @ 2100</b>	6	7	8 Breakfast 0730
9	10 <b>2 m Club net @ 2000</b>	11 club meeting	12 <b>6m Club net @ 2100</b>	13	14	15 Breakfast 0730
16	17 <b>2 m Club net @ 2000</b>	18	19 <b>6m Club net @ 2100</b>	20	21	22 Breakfast 0730
23	24 <b>2 m Club net @ 2000</b>	25	26 <b>6m Club net @ 2100</b>	27	28	29
30	31					

## The GARZETTE

*The GARZETTE* is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word format or email to [ka4kkf@arrl.net](mailto:ka4kkf@arrl.net). Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via email to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary. In keeping with the amateur radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of *The GARZETTE* articles by other amateur radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and to *The GARZETTE*.

*The GARZETTE* is published each month with the assistance of Hal Manning, who prints the news letter. Rick Patchin, KD4RFK does the final production work on *The GARZETTE* by folding & labeling. Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN, stamps and gets the end product to the Post Office each month. Norm Schklar, wa4zxv, manages email delivery. Many thanks to each of them and all article contributors.

Deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For any additional information contact: Newsletter Editor:

David Adcock ka4kkf  
(770-271-9398)  
[ka4kkf@arrl.net](mailto:ka4kkf@arrl.net)

All correspondence relating to articles posted in *The GARZETTE* or for information concerning advertising rates should be directed to the following address:

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30048  
Attn: Newsletter Editor

## GARS Recurring Calendar

- Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM. Check the Web Site for Location.
- Every Monday at 8 PM local time: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 2 meter repeater
- Every Wednesday at 9 PM local time: GARS 6 meter net on the GARS 6 meter repeater
- Every Saturday at 7:30 AM local time: GARS Weekly Family Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville

## Election Results:

President: Norn Schklar, WA4ZXV (incumbent),  
 Vice-President Earl Whatley, AF4FG (incumbent),  
 Secretary Randy Collins, N4COR (incumbent),  
 Program Manager Kyle Albritton, W4KDA,  
 Treasurer Dick Sandberg, N9SXJ

Metro Atlanta VE Exam Schedule

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta area VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at [www.arrl-ga.org](http://www.arrl-ga.org)

**First Saturday, Even Months**

9:00AM  
EOC Building  
Butch Nitz, AF4FS  
(770) 968-8780

**First Wednesday**

7:00 PM  
ARRL/VEC  
Roberts School  
4681 School Street,  
Acworth  
Jodi Escher AG4BK  
770-387-1591

**Second Tuesday**

7:00PM  
Walton EMC  
3645 Lenora Church Rd,  
Snellville  
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA  
(770) 498-7759

**Second Saturday, Odd Months**

ARRL VEC  
8:30 AM  
Stone Mountain Methodist  
Church  
5312 West Mountain St.  
Stone Mountain  
Bob Varone, W4ETN  
(770) 978-3179

**Third Saturday**

CA VEC  
9:00AM  
Marietta First United  
Methodist Church Room 305,  
56 Whitlock Ave  
Marietta  
David Still, WB4RRD  
(770) 973-2566

**Fourth Tuesday**

ARRL VEC  
7:00 PM  
United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Road,  
Douglasville  
Starting in April  
**Third Sunday**  
W5YI VEC  
3:00 - 5:00 PM  
Lawrenceville Masonic Lodge  
465 South Perry Street  
Lawrenceville, GA 30044  
770-963-5721

**Fourth Sunday**

2:30 PM  
Georgia Tech Student Center  
Room 301  
David Ziskind, KE4QLH  
(404) 966-6864

Metro Atlanta Club Meetings**First Tuesday**

Kennehoochee ARC  
Southern Polytechnic  
State University  
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM  
Talk In 146.880(-)

**Second Monday**

Georgia Tech ARC  
Room W218  
Van Leer Electrical  
Engineering Bldg.  
Georgia Tech Campus  
Meeting at 7:00 PM

**First Thursday**

Atlanta Radio Club  
Georgia Red Cross HQ  
1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta  
Meeting is at 7:30 PM  
Talk In -146.820(-)

**N.E. Georgia ARC**

Commerce Public Library  
Meeting is at 6:30 PM  
Talk In - 147.225 (+)  
PL 123.0

**Second Thursday**

Alford Memorial Radio Club  
Annistown Road Baptist Church  
Intersection of Annistown Rd  
& Spain Rd  
Stone Mountain  
Dinner at 6:00 PM  
Meeting at 7:30 PM  
Talk In - 146.760 (-)

**Third Tuesday**

North Fulton Amateur Radio  
League  
Alpharetta EOC located at  
2970 Webb Bridge Road, in Al-  
pharetta  
meeting at 7:30 PM  
Talk In - 145.47 (-)

**First Saturday**

North GA QRP Club  
Wieuca Baptist Church on  
Peachtree Rd/Wieuca, 10 AM

## Build Something!

By KB6NU

A couple of years ago, a group of us were talking on the club repeater, and the talk got around to building stuff. One of the guys said, "You can't really build anything anymore." I almost fell out of my chair. That's simply not true. Heathkit may be just a fond memory, but there are still many companies out there selling kits that are not only fun to build, but are useful additions to the ham shack.

Here are a couple of sources:

- Elecraft ([www.elecraft.com](http://www.elecraft.com)). In my mind, Elecraft has become the premiere ham radio kit company, if not the premiere ham radio company, period. The new K3, for example, outperforms just about anything on the market by many accounts. Personally, I have built the KX-1, which is a real blast to operate from a park bench or to take on vacation. I also have and use the W1 wattmeter.
- TenTec ([radio.tentec.com/kits](http://radio.tentec.com/kits)). While perhaps known more for their ready-made rigs, they also sell a line of single-band transceivers and receiver kits.
- QRP Kits ([www.qrpkits.com](http://www.qrpkits.com)). QRPKits.Com sells kits that were originally projects of the Northern California QRP Club. My current General Class students are going to build the DC40A kit (\$40) as an exercise in building and as a way to learn about how radios work.

Below are some other companies whose kits have good reputations, but with which I have no personal experience:

- \* Small Wonder Labs ([www.smallwonderlabs.com](http://www.smallwonderlabs.com))
- \* Wilderness Radio ([www.fix.net/~jparker/wild.html](http://www.fix.net/~jparker/wild.html))
- \* Milestone Technologies ([www.mtechnologies.com](http://www.mtechnologies.com))
- \* Almost All Digital Electronics ([www.aade.com/index.html](http://www.aade.com/index.html))
- \* FAR Circuits ([www.farcircuits.net](http://www.farcircuits.net))
- \* Jackson Harbor ([home.att.net/~jacksonharbor/ham.htm](http://home.att.net/~jacksonharbor/ham.htm))
- \* QRPme ([www.qrpme.com/](http://www.qrpme.com/))
- \* Linear Amp UK ([www.linamp.co.uk](http://www.linamp.co.uk))

QRP clubs are also a good source of cool kits. The problem with QRP clubs is that they order parts only for a very short run of kits. Once they sell out, the kits are no longer available. Even so, here are some clubs that are worth checking out:

- \* American QRP Club ([www.amqrp.org](http://www.amqrp.org))
- \* Four State QRP Club ([4sqrp.com/kits/kits.htm](http://4sqrp.com/kits/kits.htm))
- \* NORTEX ([www.kk5na.com/nortex.htm](http://www.kk5na.com/nortex.htm))

Ready to rock and roll?

Here are a couple websites that you might want to check out before you dive in:

- \* Electronic Construction from A to Z ([www.mtechnologies.com/building/atoz.htm](http://www.mtechnologies.com/building/atoz.htm)). This site includes a page that lists all the tools you'll need to become a successful kit builder.
- \* Crystal Sets to Sideband: A Guide to Building an Amateur Radio Station ([www.qsl.net/k3pd/book.html](http://www.qsl.net/k3pd/book.html)). This site not only discusses kit building, but also radio theory.
- \* The Art of Kit Building ([www.netnitco.net/users/wt9w/kit%20building.html](http://www.netnitco.net/users/wt9w/kit%20building.html))

I hope that I've whetted your appetite for building a kit or two. They're a lot of fun to build, and you really do get a rush from operating a radio or using a piece of test equipment that you built yourself.

What have you built lately?

Let Dan know. Email him at  
[cwgeek@kb6nu.com](mailto:cwgeek@kb6nu.com).

**Word Search**  
By Bill Cherepy WB4WTN

R	O	A	N	T	E	N	N	A	N	M
M	A	E	B	T	O	K	A	O	O	E
E	N	Y	D	E	E	L	I	C	I	O
L	D	C	C	N	I	T	I	C	T	T
O	A	O	W	N	A	V	A	A	A	U
P	S	O	C	I	E	T	Y	M	G	O
I	O	O	V	W	M	U	P	A	A	N
D	I	E	D	G	O	E	Q	T	P	M
D	D	N	U	O	R	G	L	E	O	O
G	A	Y	A	E	S	U	F	U	R	M
A	R	R	L	S	E	R	A	R	P	F

Alinco  
Amateur  
ampere  
antenna  
ARES  
ARRL  
beam  
code  
deviation  
dipole  
frequency  
ground  
Gwinnett  
ICOM  
Kenwood  
morse  
propagation  
Radio  
Society  
Yaesu

## 6 Meter Lemonade, 53.11 Each

by

**Kyle Albritton W4KDA**

The old proverb goes something like, “when life gives you lemons, make lemonade.” That is exactly what the GARS troops did on January 9<sup>th</sup> this year. It seems a dirty potentiometer in the GARS 6 meter repeater took it off line for a spell. But the regular 6 meter net participants did not want to miss the net. Instead of suspending the net, a last second decision was made to execute the net on FM simplex. There was no time to let people know the net was going to move to simplex, so the net was held on the output frequency of the repeater. In this way, people who listened to check into the net could hear net control's instructions to call in on the output frequency without an offset. During the net, the net control appointed several attendees to call for check ins via relay for participants who could not hear net control on simplex. The whole exercise worked quite well! The 6 meter net recorded 8 check ins that night, which is about half of the usual number.

The moral of this true story is that equipment fails, usually at the worst time. During an emergency you can count on the DSL going out, cell towers being jammed, a repeater can run out of back up power, and telephone lines do go down. If a critical repeater is down (and *only* if it is down), you can still pass critical traffic by using a repeater's output frequency.

Hope to talk with you all on the 6 meter net real soon!

## Proposed ByLaw changes

Current:

H.5. Immediately upon assuming office the President shall appoint a Trustee. The Trustee shall handle those duties assigned by the GARS officers.

Proposed change:

H.5. The President shall appoint, subject to confirmation by the Club officers, a Trustee for the Club Station License. The Trustee shall be a current club member and shall be responsible for any and all matters pertaining to the club license. The length of the Trustee's term shall be at the discretion of the President.

## Digital Saturday

Gwinnett ARES has scheduled a seminar and workshop on digital technologies and operation for **Saturday, March 29 from 9:00am to 3:00pm**. The session has been designed to give participants two different opportunities to learn about various digital technologies and get a hands-on experience that are useful in emergency communications. One hour classes will be scheduled throughout the day with basic Packet setup and operation, D-Star operation and programming, PSK31 and Winlink 2000.

The location for the workshop will be Gwinnett Innovation Park, Building F at One Meca Way, Norcross located off of Shackleford Road near Gwinnett Place Mall. Seating will be limited for each class. Signups will begin in early March with more details to come.

### Upcoming Hamfest in the area.

**Mar. 15** 55th Annual Kennehoochee Hamfest Kennehoochee Amateur Radio Club  
Jim R. Miller Park - Marietta, GA  
<http://www.w4bti.org>

**April 26** Calhoun Hamfest Cherokee Capital Amateur Radio Society  
<http://www.k4woc.com>  
Sugar Valley Community Center  
Sugar Valley, GA

**June 7** Georgia Section Convention  
Atlanta Radio Club (W4DOC)  
Marietta, GA Jim Miller Park  
<http://www.atlantahamfest.com>

**July 12** Lanierland ARC  
<http://www.lanierlandarc.org>  
Gainesville, GA

**August 9** Ellijay Ham Fest 2008  
Ellijay Lions Club  
Ellijay Amateur Radio Society (W4HHH)  
<http://www.qsl.net/w4hhh/>

Do you know a boy or girl  
14 to 21 years old  
who wants to:

Climb, Hike  
Canoe, Camp  
Talk on an amateur radio  
Have Fun  
Tell them about

## Venture Crew 73

**We meet the second Tuesday  
of each Month at 7:00PM  
prior to the GARS meeting at  
St. Marguerite D'Youville  
Church..**

For more information Visit  
[www.gars.org/crew73](http://www.gars.org/crew73)  
or contact Ray Back:

Email [crew73@gars.org](mailto:crew73@gars.org)  
Phone (770) 295-9174

## GARS Communication System

### 70 Cm Repeater

444.525(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

### 2 Meter Repeater

147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

### APRS

144.390 -- 1200 Baud  
W4GR

### Main Repeater Site

Oak Street, Lawrenceville

### Backup Repeater Site

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

### Remote Receive Sites

Bogart Road, Buford

Goshen Springs Road,  
Norcross

Lanier Mountain, Snellville

### 6 Meter Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz)  
82.5 PL Tone

### D-Star

## Net Needs Net Control Operators!

If you would like to be net control and learn how to operate the net, contact Scott, KF4PWI. We are looking for 2m and 6 m net control operators to fill in the empty spaces in the rotation.

[kf4pwi@arrl.net](mailto:kf4pwi@arrl.net)

## Field Day 2008 Rules and Forms

Now Available (Feb 8, 2008) -- It's that time of year again -- time to start gearing up for Field Day, ARRL's flagship operating event. Field Day, held the fourth full weekend in June, brings together new and experienced hams for 24 hours of operating fun. ARRL Field Day Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, says there are several rules changes this year, mainly concerning "Get on the Air" (GOTA) stations and the elimination of the Demonstration Mode Bonus Category. The complete Field Day Packet can be downloaded from the ARRL Web site. A full 2008 Field Day page on the ARRL Web site will be coming in the next few weeks.

## GARS

### APPAREL ORDER FORM

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

CALL: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME TO BE EMBROIDERED: \_\_\_\_\_

CALL SIGN TO BE EMBROIDERED: \_\_\_\_\_

ITEM	SIZE	QUANTITY	PRICE	TOTAL
<b>T-SHIRT</b>				
Red WITHOUT name & call			\$20.00	
White WITHOUT name & call			\$20.00	
Red WITH name & call			\$20.00	
White WITH name & call			\$20.00	
<b>GOLF SHIRT -- WITHOUT name &amp; call</b>				
Red			\$24.00	
White			\$24.00	
<b>GOLF SHIRT -- WITH name &amp; call</b>				
Red			\$28.00	
White			\$28.00	
<b>SWEATSHIRT</b>				
Red WITHOUT name & call			\$30.00	
White WITHOUT name & call			\$30.00	
Red WITH name & call			\$30.00	
White WITH name & call			\$30.00	
<b>LIGHTWEIGHT JACKET -- RED ONLY</b>				
WITHOUT name & call			\$31.00	
WITH name & call			\$35.00	
<b>HEAVYWEIGHT JACKET -- RED ONLY</b>				
WITHOUT name & call			\$41.00	
WITH name & call			\$45.00	
<b>GARS BADGE -- WITH name &amp; call</b>			\$9.00	
<b>HAT -- WITHOUT name &amp; call</b>				
Red			\$9.00	
White			\$9.00	
<b>HAT -- WITH name &amp; call</b>				
Red			\$14.00	
White			\$14.00	

TOTAL ORDER PRICE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach your check made payable to GARS and return to Amy Woodrick, KE4IKF or mail to:

**GARS**  
**P.O. Box 88**  
**Lilburn, Georgia 30048**

**NOTE:** Please allow at least 4 weeks for delivery of items. Some items may need to be special ordered.

Thanks and 73s! -- Amy KE4IKF

**Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society**  
 P.O. Box 88  
 Lilburn, GA 30048

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

## NEW MEMBER

## RENEWAL

Amateur Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

License Class

Novice

Technician

General

Advanced

Extra

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Work Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yy)

ARRL Member    Yes    No    Life

Interests \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to receive the GARZETTE newsletter by:    US Mail    Email (please check only one)

### Type of Membership

### Optional Contributions

Individual \$30.00 annually

Repeater Fund    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Student \$15.00 annually

Senior \$15.00 annually (over age 65)

Scholarship Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Family \*\* \$35.00 annually

\*\* Available for family members residing at the same address

### Additional Family Members \*\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yy)

License Class    Technician    General    Extra    ARRL Member    Yes    No    Life

Interests \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yy)

License Class    Technician    General    Extra    ARRL Member    Yes    No    Life

Interests \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to abide by the By-Laws of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society and understand that membership is subject to the approval of the Club.

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

GARS Appreciates these fine sponsors that support our great organization!

**GWINNETT COLLISION  
CENTER, INC.**

305 Sharon Ind. Way  
Suwanee, Georgia 30024  
945-0161  
Import and Domestic  
Unibody and Frame Repair  
Marty Fowler, KE4MLH      Mark Justice

**WORLD WIDE DISTRIBUTION**



**Mark Holmes**  
Manager  
**KJ4VO**

**6071 Buford Highway**  
**Atlanta, GA 30340 (Doraville)**  
**770-263-0700 1-800-444-7927**  
**Fax 770-263-9548**

**Mark KJ4VO**

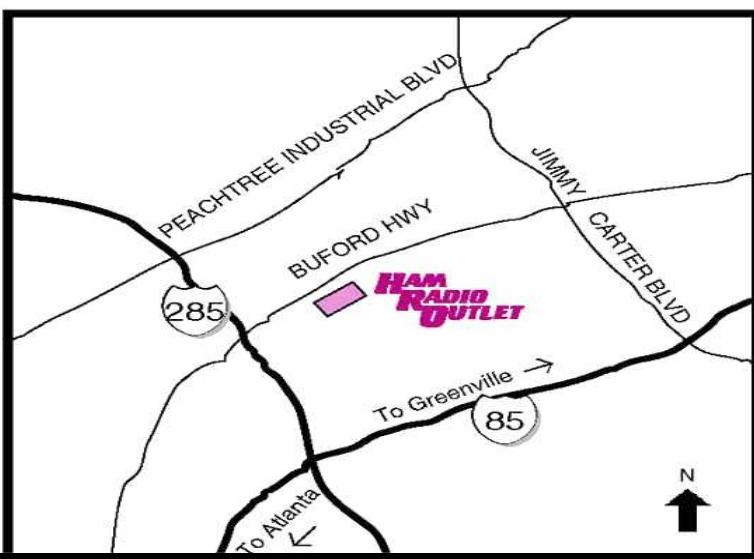
**Tim W4EGT**

**David KE4VDH**

**Dale W4GCL**

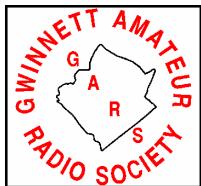
**Bill KF8AZ**

**Josh W4JDH**



Alinco  
Icom  
Japan Radio Corp  
Kenwood  
Premier  
ADI  
Yaesu  
Alpha Delta  
Arrow  
Butternut  
Create  
Cushcraft  
Diamond  
Force 12  
Hustler  
Hy-Gain (Telex)  
KLM  
Larsen  
M2  
Premier  
Valor  
Van Gorden

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, GA 30048



To receive the **Garzette** via e mail contact, please contact the membership chairman

## Saturday Morning

### Breakfast

**Join us at the Golden Coral  
on Riverside Drive in  
Lawrenceville at 7:30 a.m.**

#### Next Meeting

**Tuesday, March 11th**

**The Meetings are on the  
Second Tuesday of the  
month 7:30pm at the  
St Marguerite  
D'Youville Church,  
85 Gloster Rd NW,**

**Lawrenceville, GA 30044.  
Just off Highway 29 SW  
of Lawrenceville.**

**Directions on the Web  
site.  
<http://www.gars.org>**

**PRUDENTIAL  
GEORGIA  
REALTY**

**SHARON ADCOCK**

**404-428-9127**

[sharon@sharonadcock.com](mailto:sharon@sharonadcock.com)

**You need an EXPERT on  
Your team when  
BUYING or SELLING  
Real Estate**

**11 + Years Experience of  
listening and fulfilling YOUR  
needs**

 **Prudential  
Real Estate**

[www.sharonadcock.prudentialgeorgia.com](http://www.sharonadcock.prudentialgeorgia.com)

**GARS Specialist  
Top Negotiator  
Top Agent**



**Helping "HAMS" with the Sale and  
Purchase of their properties takes  
Extra Time, Effort and Dedication.  
Not every agent is willing to make  
that Commitment.**

**Call me for when You or Your Friends  
and Family are ready to Make a Move.**

**\*\*References available upon Request**